



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 8, 2016**  
**PRESS CONTACT: Daphne Robinson**  
**425.591.6016**  
[daphnemrobinson@msn.com](mailto:daphnemrobinson@msn.com)

## ***The Spring Blossoms of the Earth***

Featuring:

2016 Youth Concerto Competition Winner Violinist Adrian Steele  
Sunday, June 12, 2016 ~ 2:00 pm  
Eastlake Performing Arts Center



**Sammamish, WA – May 8, 2016**

Spring and nature are the inspirations for the bookends of the Sammamish Symphony Orchestra's final concert of the season. Conducted by Adam Stern, the program opens with Aaron Copland's ***The Tender Land***, taken from Copland's only full-length opera. The action centers on a Midwestern family of farmers and the traditions they uphold. ***Brahms***

***Symphony No. 2, Op. 73***, occasionally referred to as its composer's "Pastoral" symphony, closes the season with one of the glories of the Romantic period.

### **First Place 2016 YCC Winner! - Violinist Adrian Steele.**

Sammamish Symphony audiences will also have a chance to hear a rising young soloist as this concert features the winner of the SSO's annual Youth Concerto Competition. The orchestra will be joined by Adrian Steele, as he performs Sibelius' ***Violin Concerto in d, Op. 47***.

Adrian Steele, aged 16, has studied violin with Ron Patterson since 2010, having previously studied with Mihoko Hirata and Tracy Helming. A sophomore at Garfield High School in Seattle, he is a member of Garfield's Symphonic Orchestra and also pursues music academics at the Seattle Conservatory of Music. This April, Adrian was awarded the Grand Prize and named "National Young Artist of 2016" at the Pepsico – Charleston Symphony Orchestra National Young Artist Competition in Charleston, South Carolina. Other recent awards include winning the Seattle Young Artists Music Festival Association's 2016 Concerto Competition and Festival Medal, the



2016 Washington Music Educators Association State Solo Contest, the 2015-2016 Orchestra of Seattle Concerto Competition, the 2015 Coeur d'Alene National Young Artists' High School competition and the Seattle Young Artists Music Festival Association's 2014 Concerto Competition.

**Additional 2016 YCC Winners include:**

Jay Yang - 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner  
Stephen Leou - 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner - tied  
Ryan Char - 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner - tied

**About Adam Stern**

Maestro Stern is Conductor and Music Director of the Sammamish Symphony Orchestra. In addition, Adam Stern has been leading the Seattle Philharmonic Orchestra since 2003. He has served as Associate Conductor and Assistant Conductor at the Seattle Symphony, Music Director and Conductor of the Northwest Chamber Orchestra and Music Director of the Port Angeles Symphony. Stern is currently an Adjunct Faculty member at Cornish College of the Arts, where he teaches composition, conducting, orchestral repertoire and film music history. <http://www.adamostern.com/>



**About the venue**

**Eastlake Performing Arts Center located at Eastlake High School  
400 228<sup>th</sup> Ave NE - Sammamish, WA, 98074**

**The Sammamish Symphony Orchestra** performs on the Sammamish Plateau, in downtown Bellevue and various locations in the Seattle area. It is committed to offering quality music at affordable prices for Eastside residents. The Sammamish Symphony Orchestra also performs two Summer Pops concerts free of charge. This volunteer ensemble provides the opportunity for talented, dedicated musicians to perform with a full symphony orchestra. In addition, the Orchestra promotes involvement in the arts for young musicians who are given the chance to participate in classical and pops concerts and sponsors an annual Youth Concerto competition.

For tickets and more information:

- <http://www.sammamishsymphony.org>
- <https://www.facebook.com/SammamishSymphony>
- <https://twitter.com/SammamishSymph>